

Message Text

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ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00

DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-02 USIA-15 PRS-01 SY-05

SCCT-01 /067 W

----- 008510

R 141011Z NOV 75

FM AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1729

INFO AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

UNCLAS KUALA LUMPUR 6683

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINS, MY

SUBJ: PERAK CHIEF POLICE OFFICER WOUNDED

REF: KUALA LUMPUR 6657

1. FURTHER TO REFTEL, PERAK CHIEF POLICE OFFICER, DATUK KOO CHONG KONG, REMAINS IN SERIOUS CONDITION BUT EXPECTED TO RECOVER FROM WOUNDS SUFFERED IN BROAD DAYLIGHT ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT IN IPOH WHILE BEING DRIVEN HOME FOR LUNCH. ACCORDING TO EYEWITNESS ACCOUNTS ATTACK WAS MOUNTED BY TWO YOUTHS (DESCRIBED IN PRESS ACCOUNTS AS "BELIEVED TO BE COMMUNIST AGENTS" ON MOTORCYCLES AND DRESSED AS HIGHSCHOOL BOYS WHO PULLED ALONGSIDE CPO'S VEHICLE WHILE IT WAS STOPPED AT LIGHT AND OPENED FIRE. POLICE CONSTABLE DRIVING CAR RETURNED GUNMEN'S FIRE BUT WAS KILLED IN FUSILADE, AND CPO WOUNDED IN HEAD, ARM AND NECK. POLICE REPORTED TWO SUSPECTS AGED 18 AND 25, ONE HAVING FACE WOUND, WERE ARRESTED IN A TAXI SHORTLY AFTERWARDS AT SUNGEI SIPUT, ABOUT 18 MILES NORTH OF IPOH.

2. IN EDITORIAL COMMENTARY ON "IPOH ATROCITY" PRO-GOVERNMENT "NEW STRAITS TIMES" (NST) DECLARED THAT "THE HIT-AND-RUN ATTACK, WELL WITHIN THE CAPACITY OF MOST SECRET SOCIETY GANGS TO STAGE, IS OF COURSE, A POOR
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INDICATOR OF REAL COMMUNIST STRENGTH ON THE GROUND,

AMONG THE MASSES." EDIT ADDED THAT INCIDENT REVEALED THAT
THREAT POSED BY TERRORISTS IS URBAN AS WELL AS RURAL. ACCORDING
TO NST," THERE HAS BEEN NO DOUBT FOR SOME TIME NOW THAT OUR
SECURITY FORCES -- THE POLICE AND THE THREE SERVICES --
MUST BE EXPANDED AND BETTER EQUIPPED. THERE IS NO NEED
FOR ALARM BUT WE MUST BE FIRM WHILE BEING FAIR." HOWEVER,
"ON THE QUESTION OF PREPAREDNESS IN FACING THE COMMUNIST
THREAT, IT IS WISE TO ERR ON THE SIDE OF CAUTION," EDIT
CONCLUDED.
UNDERHILL

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NNN

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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To: STATE
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